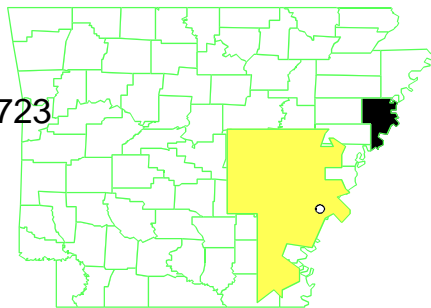


SOUTH 8TH ST. LANDFILL ARKANSAS

EPA ID# ARD980496723



EPA REGION 6
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 01

Crittenden County
West Memphis
Updated: July 7, 1997

Other Names:
West Memphis Landfill

Site Description

- Location:**
- West Memphis, Crittenden County, Arkansas
 - Across the Mississippi River from Memphis, TN
- Population:**
- An estimated 30,400 people live within 4 miles of the site.
- Setting:**
- Located in the two year flood plain between the St. Francis Levee and the Mississippi River.
 - Located down gradient of West Memphis water supply wells.
 - Located next to operating RV park.
 - Road through the site is only access to the Mississippi River for miles on Arkansas side of the River.
 - Trespassers seeking access to the River are quite common.
 - Site was evaluated for use as a park by the State of Arkansas.
- Hydrology:**
- Very porous alluvium aquifer, ground water table ranges to a few feet to 20 feet below the ground surface depending upon the stage of the Mississippi River.
 - From 1980 to 1990, the site was flooded an average of 30 days per year.

Wastes and Volumes

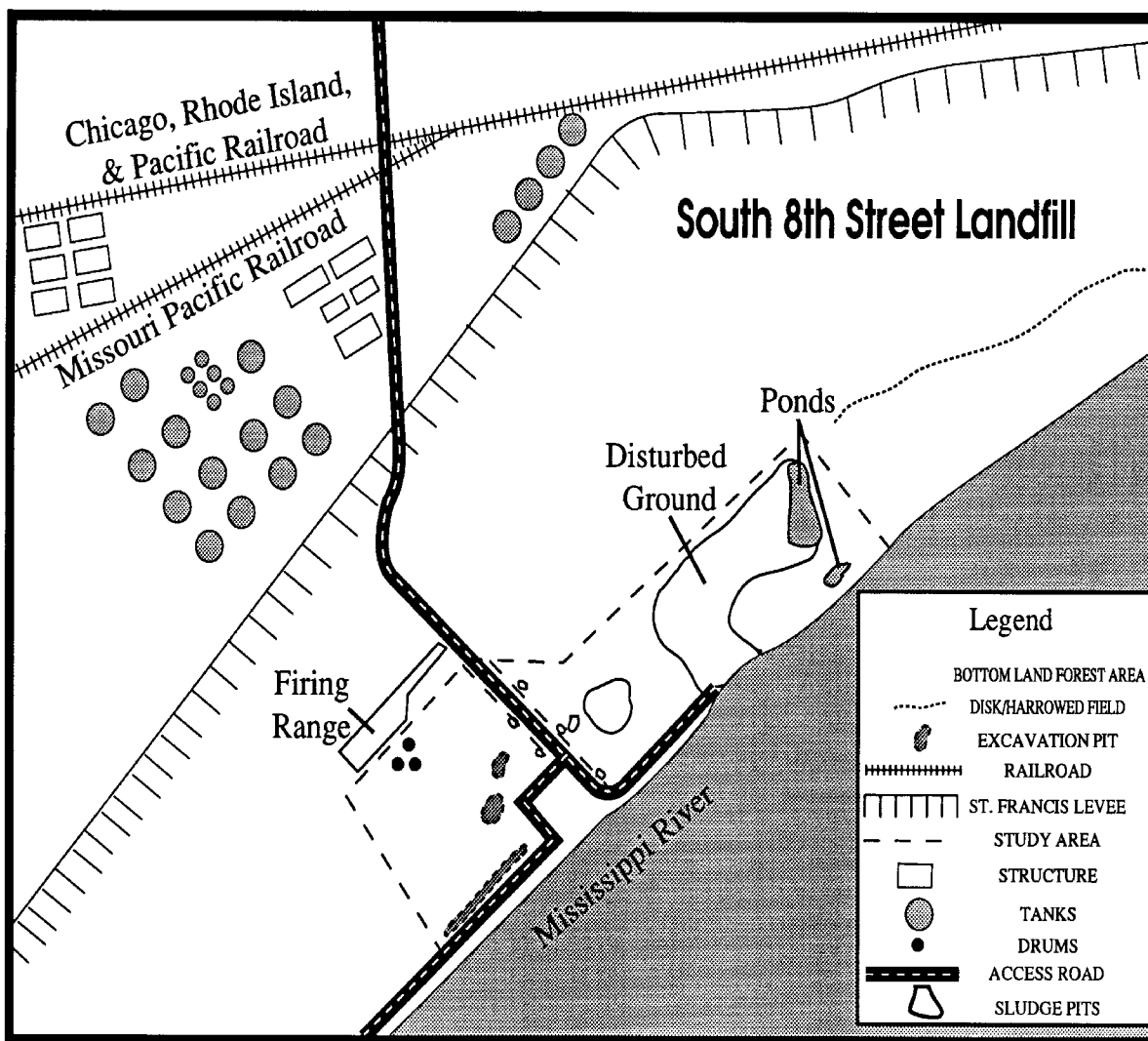
1. Principal Pollutants:
 - The waste in the pit is highly corrosive with a pH of less than 2.0
 - Contaminants in the pit include lead, PCBs, carcinogenic poly-aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and dioxin.
 - Contaminants in the landfill areas of the site include carcinogenic PAHs and several pesticides.
2. Volume:
 - The volume of waste and its ancillary contaminated soil and debris is approximately 22,000 cubic yards and the surface area is approximately 4 acres.
 - The surface area of the landfill portions is approximately 15 acres.

Site Assessment and Ranking

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Site HRS Score: 50.27
Proposed Date: 2/07/92
Final Date: 10/14/92
NPL Update: No.

Site Map and Diagram



The Remediation Process

Site History:

- Aerial photographs indicate that the site was used for the excavation of a series of borrow pits and the subsequent disposal of waste beginning in 1957. Most of the early disposal activities were conducted in the area of the large oily waste pit.
- EPA conducted several preliminary investigations at the site beginning in 1981 through 1988. The site was scored under the Hazard Ranking System and proposed to the NPL in February 1992.
- In June 1992, the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs), with EPA oversight, provided site security.
- In September 1992, EPA took the lead when the PRPs failed to comply with the terms stated in the Unilateral Administrative Order (UAO).
- Arkansas Department of Pollution Control & Ecology (ADPC&E) declined an invitation by EPA to construct a levee around a large sludge pit.
- On October 20, 1992, EPA began construction of levee.
- Stabilization activities were completed on November 11, 1992.
- Several of the PRPs constructed a fence to limit access to the site in July 1992 in response to a UAO issued by EPA. EPA initiated a fund lead Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) in June 1992.
- EPA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) in September 1994 calling for on-site stabilization and off-site disposal of pit waste and a new cover for the landfill area. A Decision on ground water was deferred pending collection of additional data.
- EPA helped the PRPs to form a group and to negotiate with the Agency to perform the remedy. EPA sponsored Alternate Dispute Resolution, which has been helpful in prompting a PRP group to organize.

Health Considerations:

- The primary risk at the site is attributed to the oily sludge pit. The short term risks result from the highly corrosive nature of the waste and the long-term carcinogenic risks are attributed the organic contaminants present in the waste. Both the recreational work (1×10^{-3}) and crop consumer (6×10^{-2}) exposure scenarios display risk in excess of the action level (1×10^{-4}).

Other Environmental Risks:

- An ecological risk assessment conducted on the pit wastes showed that the site presents an unacceptable environmental risk (Hazard Index greater than one for several contaminants) to small mammal (mouse) and avian raptor populations (red shouldered hawk).

Record of Decision

Signed: November 1994

- **Community Involvement Plan: Developed 5/92**
- **Open Houses/Workshops: 1/92, 4/92, 2/93, 4/93, 8/93, 12/94, 3/95**
- **Three meetings were held with public officials during 1992 and 1993, and one in 6/97**
- **Original Proposed Plan - 7/93; Public Meeting 8/93**
- **ROD - Selected 11/94**
- **Community meeting to brief citizens on revised ROD as signed, 12/94**
- **Community meeting to brief citizens on a possible change in the ROD remedy, 6/97**
- **Milestone Fact Sheets: 2/92, 4/92, 7/93, 6/97**
- **Citizens on site mailing list: 150**
- **Site Repository: West Memphis Public Library**

Technical Assistance Grant ---

- Availability Notice: 4/92
- Letters of Intent Received: None
- Final Application Received: N/A
- Grant Award: N/A
- Current Status: Available

Contacts ---

- **Remedial Project Manager (EPA):** Vincent Malott, 214/665-8313, Mail Sta. 6SF-AP
- **State Contact:** Devon Hobby, 501/682-0851, ADPC&E
- **Community Involvement Coord. (EPA):** Donn Walters, 214/665-6483, Mail Sta. 6SF-PO
- **Attorney (EPA):** Anne Foster, 214/665-2169, Mail Sta. 6SF-DL
- **State Coordinator (EPA):** Robie Hirt, 214/665-8079, Mail Sta. 6SF-AP
- **Prime Contractor:** Fluor Daniel, Inc.

Cost Recovery: PRP Lead (Enforcement) ---

- PRPs Identified: 85
- Viable PRP: Currently unknown

Present Status and Issues ---

- The initial actions to limit access to the site and minimize the spread of contamination associated with flooding has helped to minimize the immediate threats to recreational visitors at the site.
- EPA signed a ROD in 11/94 calling for stabilization and off-site disposal of the sludges and contaminated soil and debris and a natural soil cover of the former landfill areas.
- EPA encouraged the formation of a PRP group by supplying a third party mediator to act as a catalyst for group formation.
- A PRP group has formed and has tendered a good faith offer to EPA to conduct the full remedial design at the site. Negotiations for the Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) to design the site remedy are complete. The AOC was signed by EPA on 3/2/96. The remedial design workplans have been approved. Additional field work was conducted during the summer and fall of 1996. EPA is currently reviewing the Remedial Design plans.

Benefits

- Remediation of the South 8th Street Site will reduce risks for over 28,000 people located within a 4 mile radius of the site.
- Approximately 48 acres of natural habitat will be returned to the environment for use by mammals and birds.
- The construction of a fence to limit public access to the site and the removal of the drums containing hazardous substances from the banks of the Mississippi River have reduced the potential human health and safety risks.